

USDA-SCS
Section II-E
Technical Guide
Area 19

~~SHALLOW HILL~~ ^{DIVIDE}
(~~SHALLOW~~ ~~RIDGE~~)
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE 19-25

Land Resource Area EP

Location _____

Date 1-1-72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: Rolling hills and ridges. Hills may be gently rolling to nearly level on top. Elevation ranges from 2000 to 2900 feet.
2. SOILS:
 - a. These are very shallow light brown, gravelly loams over cemented caliche and limestone with intermittent layers of hard limestone. Parent stone is not fractured as much as Tarrent soils. These soils have a low moisture holding capacity, but due to their ability to make good use of small rains and showers, they recover from poor conditions rapidly under good management. Small rains can produce a regrowth on this site.
 - b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:

Ector gravelly loam
 - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
 - a. This is a grassland with few scattered woody plants, but with many forbs.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGES

Grasses	80%	Woody Plants	5%	Forbs	10%
Black grama	25	Catclaw acacia		Mexican sagewort.	
Slim tridens		Hackberry		Orange zexmenia	
Sideoats grama	15	Feather dalia		Bushsunflower	
Jane bluestem	T	Skeletonleaf		Trailing ratany	
Green sprangletop	5	goldeneye	5	Sensitivebrier	
Plains bristlegrass	T	Sticky sellos		Dozedaisy	5
Vine-mesquite	5	Black dalea		Velvet bundleflower	
Bush muhly	10	Range ratany		Am. snoutbean	
Buffalograss	10	Ephedra		Menodora	
Sand muhly	10	Juniper	T	Arrowleaf sida	
Fall witchgrass				Hairy tubetongue	
Hairy tridens	10			Polygala	
Hairy grama				Croton	1
Southwestern stipa	T			Annual forbs	4
Sand dropseed					
Perennial threeawn	5				

b. As retrogression occurs, annual forbs invade and increase greatly. Low growing grasses increase. Due to shallow soil and dryness of this site, woody plants seldom become a problem. Some plants that commonly increase and invade are creosotebush, javelinabrush, cacti, perennial broomweed, groundsel, croton, ear muhly, borrograss, red grama, and juniper.

c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 400 pounds in poor years to 800 pounds in good years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: This site is inhabited by deer, turkey, quail, dove and several species of non-game birds and mammals. Pronghorn antelope may have used this site in the early days.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATES:

a.	<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/YL</u>
	Excellent	76-100	20-29
	Good	51-75	30-40
	Fair	26-50	41-55
	Poor	0-25	56-65

b & c. Seldom are there species introduced to this site or is any range seeding performed.

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Black grama	Catclaw
Cane bluestem	Slim tridens	Feather dalia
Plains bristlegrass	Fall witchgrass	Skeletonleaf
Vine-mesquite	Hairy grama	goldeneye
Bush muhly	Sand dropseed	Dozedaisy
Bushsunflower	Perennial threeawn	Hairy tridens
Engelmann daisy	Hackberry	Annual forbs
	Sensitivebrier	Perennial broom-
	Buffalograss	weed
	Mexican sagewort	
	Velvet bundleflower	
	Orange zexmenia	
	Ephedra	
	Menodora	

b. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Black grama	Cane bluestem	Some annuals
Sideoats grama	Slim tridens	Annual grasses
Plains bristlegrass	Hairy grama	Burrograss
Vine-mesquite	Sand dropseed	Threeawn
Bush muhly	Hairy tridens	Gray coldenia
Fall witchgrass	Buffalograss	Plains zinnia
Annual forbs	Catclaw	Creosotebush
Hackberry	Feather dalia	
Skeletonleaf	Ephedra	
goldeneye	Orange zexmenia	
Mexican sagewort		
Bushsunflower		
Engelmann daisy		
Sensitivebrier		
Hairy tubetongue		
Velvet bundleflower		
Menodora		

1/ Definitions of terms and an explanation of interpretations is given on a separate page which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

EP-SH

c. Deer

Primary

Hackberry
Feather dalia
Skeletonleaf
 goldeneye
Bushsunflower
Rough and showy
 menodora
Engelmann daisy
Sensitive brier
Velvet bundleflower
Ephedra
Most annual forbs

Secondary

Dozedaisy
Fall witchgrass
Mexican sagewort
Catclaw acacia
Range ratany
Orange zexmenia

Low Value

Most grasses
Juniper
Creosotebush
Plains zinnia

d. Quail and Dove

Primary

Seed of:
 Western ragweed
 Croton
 Velvet bundleflower
 Hackberry mast
 Reverchon panicum
 Plains Bristlegrass
Other forb seed

Secondary

Seed of:
 Dropseed
 Sensitive brier
 Tasajillo fruit
 Ephedra

Low Value

Seed of:
 Other grasses
 Other forbs